

Attorney Docket #10002601-4

Remarks/Arguments

Claims 21-22 remain in this application. Claims 21 and 22 have been amended. Claims 1-20 have been canceled.

A. Examiner's Remarks

Claim 19 was rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 112, first paragraph, as failing to comply with the enablement requirement.

Claim 18 was rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over USPN 5,977,226 to Dent, et al.

Claims 21 and 22 were objected to as being dependent upon a rejected base claim, but would be allowable if rewritten in independent from including all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims.

B. Claim rejections - claims 18 & 19

Claims 18 and 19 have been canceled.

C. Claim objections - claims 21 & 22

Claims 21 and 22 were objected to as being dependent upon a rejected base claim, but would be allowable if rewritten in independent from including all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims.

Claims 21 and 22 have been amended to incorporate the limitations of claims 18 and 20. No new matter has been introduced with this amendment. The objections to claims 21 and 22 are believed to be overcome.

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Conclusion

If there are any further questions or if more discussion is required, the Examiner is invited to call the Applicants' agent at the telephone number given below. In view of the above, the claims presently in the application are believed to be distinct over the prior art and in condition for allowance. Accordingly, it is respectfully requested that such allowance be granted at an early date.

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OCT 03 2003

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Respectfully submitted,

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Patent Reg. No. 50,305

October 2, 2003
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